Central assistance for the Teesta Barrage Project in West Bengal

2555. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government has asked for special Central assistance for the Teesta Barrage Project for the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 to the tune of Rs. 19.50 crores and Rs. 18.00 crores respectively; and

(b) if so, what deci ion has been taken by the Central Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Irrigation projects are required to be funded by the State Governments from their Plan resources inclusive of the general Central assistance which is given to the State Plan as a whole and which is not tied to any particular sector of development or project.

Method of testing food samples for pesticides residues

2556. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no guidelines have been issued by Government on the method of testing food samples for pesticide residues and that the State food testing laboratories attached to the Departments fo Prevention of Food Adulteration do not have sophisticated instruments required to determine the percentage of pesticide residues in food sampies; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore and how such tests are being carried out and steps being taken by Government to improve the working of food testing laboratories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) The methods of testing of food samples for analysis of pesticides are available in the Standard books on Food Analysis. A manual on analytical methods of pesticides in food has also been compiled and the same has been circulated to some of the food laboratories. The State Governments have been advised to get their Analysts trained in analysis of pesticides. Sophisticated equipments like Gas Liquid Chromatography are also supplied to the Food Laboratories by Govt. of India out of W.H.O. funds.

Treatment of children born after the Bhopal gas tragedy

2557. SHRI H. L. KAPUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state what steps have been taken to render medical assistance to those children who have been born maimed after the Bhopal gas tragedy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): A specific study has been initiated under Indian Council of Medical Research to monitor the growth and development of newborns in MIC-affected areas and to suggest the possible interventions. This is in addition to treatment for specific ailments which is provided through the network of health institutions in and around Bhopal.

Talks between India and Bangladesh on sharing of Ganga waters

2558. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV:
PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Prime Minister's special envoy, Shri P. Shiv Shankar discussed the sharing and augmentation of Ganga waters during his recent visit to Bangladesh;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines of the proposal, if any, given by the Bangladesh Government; and